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inspiration to the individual to lead for himself this fuller life" (pp. 159, 160).

These essays constitute a suitable companion volume to the author's *A Decade of Civic Development*.

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Ethics. By JOHN DEWEY, Professor of Philosophy in Columbia University, and JAMES H. TUFTS, Professor of Philosophy in the University of Chicago. American Science Series. (New York: Henry Holt and Company, 1908. Pp. xiii, 618. \$2).

This book, even apart from its content, is of interest to students of sociology and economics. Its method illustrates the close dependence which is coming to exist between modern scientific ethics and the other social sciences. About one-third of the book is taken up with a discussion of early social history and sociological principles designed to show the beginnings and growth of morality; another third is occupied with the discussion of typical social and economic problems from the ethical standpoint; while only the middle third of the book is devoted to ethical theory in the narrow sense of a psychological analysis of moral conduct.

The titles of some of the chapters of Parts I and II will sufficiently indicate their value and interest to the student of society: Early Group Life; Rationalizing and Socializing Agencies in Early Society; Group Morality—Customs or Mores; Social Organization and the Individual; The Ethics of the Economic Life; Unsettled Problems in the Economic Order; The Family. It is sufficient to say that the topics treated in these chapters are not dealt with from the standpoint of some formal metaphysical or moral principle, but are handled wholly in the spirit of the modern social sciences, and bristle with suggestions for students of those sciences.

Without passing any judgment upon the particular theory of right and wrong conduct which the authors advance, it would seem to the reviewer that the book marks an epoch in the development of ethical science from the standpoint of method. An ethics consciously developed upon the basis of psychology and the social sciences, with a minimum of metaphysics, has long been

a desideratum; and we have it in this book. The moral is shown to be embedded in the social; and even reflective morality to be, not an end in itself, but a means to a higher type of the social. The moral life is to be understood, therefore, only through the social life. The metaphysical element in ethics is, accordingly, no larger than in the other humanistic sciences, and such ultimate questions as the nature of the *summum bonum* are not within its scope. Rather its problems are those of actual human welfare.

The point of view of the book can not be better expressed, however, than in Professor Dewey's own words, uttered in a public lecture on ethics before Columbia University last March: "There is no separate body of moral rules; no separate system of motive powers; no separate subject-matter of moral knowledge, and hence no such thing as an isolated ethical science. If the business of morals is not to speculate upon man's final end, and upon an ultimate standard of right, it is to utilize physiology, anthropology, and psychology to discover all that can be discovered of man, his organic powers and propensities. If its business is not to search for the one separate moral motive, it is to converge all the instrumentalities of the social arts, of law, education, economics, and political science upon the construction of intelligent methods of improving the common lot."

In other words, ethics should be a development and a synthesis of the normative implications in the biological, psychological and social sciences.

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Papers and Proceedings of Second Annual Meeting of American Sociological Society, held at Madison, Wisconsin, December 28-31, 1907. Volume II. (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1908. Pp. 192).

The American Sociological Society is to be congratulated upon its second volume of proceedings. Such a set of papers alone justifies the existence of the Society. The general topic of the meeting was Social Conflict, and it is not too much to say that the topic was handled in a masterly way. The papers are valuable.